

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR DON KNABE

February 7, 2012

Congressman Gary Miller has introduced legislation, H.R. 2765 (Sunshine on Conflicts Act), which would to revise outdated provisions of the Clean Water Act and replace the percent of income test now applied under U.S. Environmental Protection Agency regulation. There have been several instances where highly-qualified individuals with decades of technical experience have been prohibited from serving as state water quality regulators in the absence of any actual or perceived conflict of interest.

H.R. 2765 would address this inequitable situation by replacing the “significant income” definition governing eligibility with an updated and appropriate conflict standard that protects the interests of the public. The language would prevent a sitting member of a water quality authority from voting upon, or seeking to influence, any permit in which the member has a direct or indirect financial interest. This approach is familiar to numerous town councils, city councils, county boards of supervisors, not to mention the U.S. Congress.

**I, THEREFORE, MOVE** that the Board of Supervisors support H.R. 2765 (Miller) and instruct the Chief Executive Office to prepare a five-signature letter to the Los Angeles County Congressional Delegation urging support for this bill; and instruct our Washington D.C. advocates to pursue the enactment of this legislation.

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